IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the following paragraphs as indicated:

[0026] Fig. 3 illustrates a system according to principles described herein in which light from a number of light sources is integrated using a solid integration rod. As shown in Fig. 3, the light integrating rod (100) may be formed by mating a number of optical elements (101-104) to form a stack of TIR prisms along an optical axis. It needs to be noted that Fig. 3 and the subsequent Figures are conceptual drawings in certain respects. As shown in Fig. 2, between any two prisms there is a wedge shaped air-gap that is not illustrated in Fig. 3 and subsequent drawings. In fact, the optical element (128) adjacent the light source (111) in Fig. 2 is used to allow an appropriate air-gap before the first TIR prism (120). The wedge-shaped air-gap and a strong anti-reflection coating at the air/glass interface minimize the bending of the beam towards the prism base and also reduces total internal reflections for a beam that is supposed to travel along the optical axis without any further reflections.

[0042] In addition, a second set of light sources (152-154) is positioned beneath the light integrated rod (150) in correspondence with the TIR prisms (106-108) of the rod (150). These light sources (152-154) emit light upward into the light integrating rod (150). These beams of light (155-157) are reflected by respective TIR prisms (106-108). The prisms (106-108) redirect theses these light beams (155-157) along the optical axis of the light integrating rod (150) toward a rear surface (151) and away from the exit surface (110) of the rod (150). Additionally, the TIR prisms (106-108) blend the light from the various sources (152-154) to produce an integrated beam.